

Hamilton Field, Warehouse Type H
(Facility No. 830,
Base Engineering Storage)
Near Northwestern Pacific Railroad tracks
at west end of Skeet Range Road
Novato
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2398-BU

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
IBU-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HAMILTON FIELD
Warehouse Type H
(Base Engineering Storage, Facility No. 830)

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Location: Hamilton Army Air Field
Novato, Marin County, California
Warehouse Type H
Base Engineering Storage
Facility No. 830 (near Northwestern Pacific Railroad tracks at west end of Range Road)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

Building 830 is considered significant for its association with Air Force history in northern California, and with World War II actions in the Pacific Theater. This warehouse, constructed during World War II, was an integral part of the Civil Engineering division, a group responsible for maintaining the base facilities.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

Facility 830 is a two-story rectangular frame storehouse on an elevated concrete dock and measures 192.5 feet by 50 feet. It has a low-pitched gable roof covered with composition shingles. There are six metal chimneys on the roof. The foundation and floor are concrete. There are four entry bays with suspended sliding wood doors on the northeast elevation, as well as four pedestrian doors with four lights and three recessed panels. Sets of wooden stairways with two-inch by four-inch railings provide access to the loading ramp. The southwest elevation has two entry bays and no fenestration. There are windows on both stories of the gable ends and along the second story of the northeast elevation. They are six-over six-light rectangular double hung wood frame sash.

The interior consists of a large warehouse with an office area on the northwest end. The offices have gypsum walls, suspended acoustical tile ceilings and tongue and groove wood floors covered with eight-inch-square vinyl asphalt tiles. Lighting is by two-tube industrial type fluorescent with metal hoods mounted on the ceiling. A mezzanine area is accessed by

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a wood stairway with two-inch diameter metal pipe railing. One latrine with a wall-mounted sink and a flush-valve "Standard" toilet is present on the lower level.

Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Facility 830 was built in January 1944 for \$25,202.97. The facility served as the main warehouse in the base engineering area until base closure in 1974. It was vacated after base closure and has deteriorated.

Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

See the project Field Record, roll 43, exposures 5-6, 9-12; roll 48, exposures 7-10.

The line drawn sketches were drafted on site in 1994 by Keith Syda, scanned into a computer and drawn by Christopher MacDonald in 1995, and corrected and finalized by Claire Warshaw in 1996 (all PAR Environmental Services, Inc. staff).

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California,

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to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

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Date prepared: July 1995

Photography prepared by: David De Vries

Affiliation: Mesa Technical, Berkeley, California

Date of photographs: May 1993

First Floor

